

## Helena MT

### Description:

- Helena was a wild-and-woolly boomtown, built on gold mining. Last Chance Gulch was named when four miners said they had one last chance to hit it big in the West -- and they did. The town boomed in the gold rush of 1865.
- Airlines provide commuter links to larger airports in Montana and other Western states from **Helena Regional Airport** (tel. **406/442-2821**; [www.helenaairport.com](http://www.helenaairport.com)), northeast of the city on Skyway Drive off U.S. 15. Helena Regional Airport is 3 miles from Helena, MT. More than 283 passengers travel on flights from this airport every day

### Architectural interest:

- Historical mansions from the gold rush
- Governor's mansion

### Other points of interest:

- This Montana Historical Society museum is filled with interesting artifacts from the state's past and present. The "Montana Homeland" exhibit provides a timeline of interesting objects that take you through all phases of Montana history. The museum's Mackay Gallery of Russell Art is an excellent collection of paintings, sculpture, and illustrated letters by Charles M. Russell.
- Gate of the Mountains  
Take a boat tour through a gorgeous river canyon, where you will see interesting geology and a variety of wildlife. Gates of the Mountain was named by Merriwether Lewis in July 1805 during the Corps expedition. Highly recommended
- The Tizer Botanic Gardens are divided into a variety of different sections, including a fairy garden, a children's garden, a perennial garden, and a nature trail. You'll find charming sitting spots and a creek winding through the garden, making it a great place to relax and reflect. The Garden is located south of Helena off of I-15.